

Fulston Manor School

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Academy Trust Registered in England: Company No. 7343725

GBO/NFI

7th October 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: PUPIL PREMIUM

You may be aware that the government is currently allocating additional funding to schools in the form of The Pupil Premium. There are various circumstances, which can attract Pupil Premium funding:

- Children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)
- Children who have claimed FSM in the past 5 years
- Children of current Regular Armed Services Personnel
- Children designated as 'Looked After'

The rationale behind the Pupil Premium funding is that historically, these groups of children have under-performed throughout their school careers, across the country. That is not to say that any individual will inevitably under-perform but the statistics e.g. for those achieving 5+ A*-C/ 9-4 GCSEs or accessing higher education are quite stark. The government has therefore decided to target money directly through schools to see what can be done. This has given schools the opportunity to use the money in whatever way they think is most appropriate for their students.

I include along with this letter, a copy of our Pupil Premium Promise, which outlines the additional opportunities we work to ensure all Pupil Premium students are able to access, during their time at the school, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum.

Using the example of FSM, in common with most schools it is likely that a number of parents/carers whose children attend Fulston Manor fail to claim FSM, even though they are entitled to them.

As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children who receive FSM (£935 per student), I am writing to all parents to ask if they believe they may be entitled to claim FSM for their children and do not already do so, to make a claim.

In order to claim FSM a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not including Working Tax Credit) - if the household income is below £16,190
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- an income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 if you are an asylum seeker

If you think you may qualify we would encourage you to complete the online application via the following link: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals#>. The process is completely confidential and, for example, our cashless catering system handles payment for school meals without anyone being aware of who is getting a free meal and who is paying.

Should you require further advice and/or clarification, then please do not hesitate to contact me either via email, gbowden@fulstonmanor.kent.sch.uk or via the school office.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Bowden
Deputy Headteacher (SENCO)

A High Performing Academy Trust

Head of School Mrs S P Burden, LLB PGCE
Executive Headteacher Mr A G Brookes, MA (Cantab)